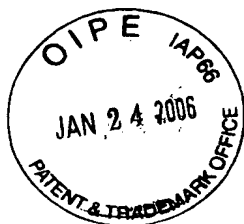


01-25-06

1FW11649



CASE 4-32303A

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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Express Mail Label Number

1-24-06

Date of Deposit

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

DIXON ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/525,456

FILED: FEBRUARY 24, 2005

FOR: HB-954 AS A TARGET FOR MODULATING ANGIOGENESIS

**MS: Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement of January 5, 2006, Applicants elect the claims of Group 1, claims 1-16, drawn to an assay employing a HB-954 polypeptide. This election is made without traverse.

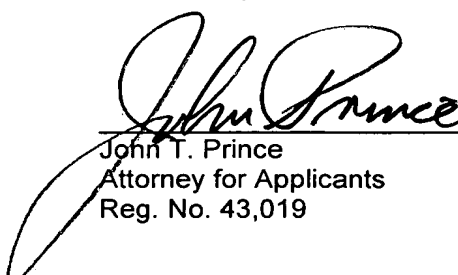
This election is timely made. However, if it is deemed that additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis for any fees due.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of any non-elected claim groups in one or more divisional applications.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis  
Corporate Intellectual Property  
One Health Plaza, Building 104  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080  
(617) 871-3346

  
John T. Prince  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 43,019

Date: January 24, 2006